

Business Area #10:
West Cambridge/Alewife

Boundaries: bordered by the Charles River, the Watertown, Belmont, and Arlington Lines, Alewife Brook Parkway, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Mason Street, and Ash Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/ Industrial concentration include: businesses and offices on Mt. Auburn Street between 180 and 700 including the Star Market, the Fresh Pond Mall, industrial and research complexes on Smith, Fawcett, Mooney and Cambridge Park Drive, the Huron Village area, shops and restaurants on Concord and Garden Street.



Alewife/West Cambridge

Commercial robbery has become a concern in the Alewife/ West Cambridge District with four incidents in 2001 and five reports this year. Two gas station stickups and three bank heists comprise this year's total. A Cambridge resident was arrested in November and charged in conjunction with two of the bank robberies on Huron Ave during the Fall. A robbery in mid-October of a Fresh Pond Parkway gas station remains under investigation. Two other commercial robberies in Business District #10 were committed a week apart in March. On March 21st, a West Cambridge bank was robbed by a note-passer. A suspect brandishing a handgun on March 27th robbed a Concord Ave gas station. The Brookline Police chased down and arrested the suspect one hour later. • After recording an unusually low total of eight **commercial breaks** in 2001, this crime type increased by 17 incidents in 2002. The 2001 total represented a ten -year low for this business district. During the first six months of 2002, investigators identified a series of breaks into offices along Concord Ave where cleaning crews and ex-employees were possible suspects. The majority of these cases remain under investigation. • A trend that we have previously identified involves the large percentage of Boston residents arrested for **shoplifting** at the Fresh Pond Mall. These shoplifters tend to be older in age and more professional than arrestees in other business districts.? **Larceny from buildings** increased by 18% in this business district when compared with the figures of 2001. A pattern of thefts from workstations, patient's rooms and supply cabinets at area hospitals was identified during the first six months of 2002. Between July and the end of the year, there was a marked increase in laptop thefts from research companies and wallets from lockers at health clubs in West Cambridge.? The major **larceny from the person** scenario in West Cambridge is the theft of wallets from purses of distracted shoppers in super markets.?

CRIME	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Larceny from Building	65	64	59	54	64
Larceny from Person	20	21	24	42	41
Commercial Burglary	29	12	17	8	25
Commercial Robbery	1	1	3	4	5
Shoplifting	33	33	37	42	60
Fraud/Flim	11	28	32	36	48

Flam/Counterfeiting					
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